House of Representatives



General Assembly

File No. 180

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 6805

House of Representatives, April 5, 2005

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through REP. O'CONNOR of the 35th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RENEWAL OF INSURANCE PRODUCER LICENSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 38a-784 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):
- 3 (a) (1) [Any] Except as provided in subdivisions (2), (3) and (4) of
- 4 this subsection, any license issued [for] to an insurance producer by
- 5 the commissioner shall be in force only until the first day of February
- 6 in each even-numbered year, but may be renewed by the
- 7 commissioner [,] in accordance with this section.
- 8 (2) Any initial license issued to an insurance producer on or after
- 9 January 1, 2006, shall expire two years after the date of the producer's
- 10 <u>birthday that preceded the date the license was issued. Such license</u>
- 11 may be renewed every two years thereafter in accordance with this
- 12 section.

(3) Except for a license issued or renewed pursuant to subdivision
(2) of this subsection, or a transitional license issued pursuant to
subdivision (4) of this subsection, any producer license in effect on
January 1, 2007, shall be in force only until the producer's first birthday
after January 1, 2007. Such license may be renewed every two years
thereafter in accordance with this section.

- (4) From February 1, 2006, until January 1, 2007, the commissioner may implement a transitional process to renew producer licenses that were in effect on December 30, 2005, on the basis of a producer's birthday. The commissioner may use the transitional process to renew some or all of the producer licenses that would otherwise be renewed under subdivision (1) of this subsection, provided producers are selected for participation in the transitional process on a nondiscriminatory basis. Selection criteria may include use of producer license numbers or alphabetical selection of producers based on the producer's last name. Any license renewed during the transitional period shall expire on the producer's first birthday after the renewal date and may be renewed every two years thereafter in accordance with this section.
- (5) Not later than thirty days before a license issued to a producer
 expires, the commissioner shall notify the producer of the expiration
 date.
- 35 (6) The fees for producer licenses and agent appointments shall be 36 assessed as provided in section 38a-11, as amended by this act.
 - (7) Any license issued to an insurance producer may be renewed in the commissioner's discretion and without formality other than proper application, payment of the renewal fee set forth in section 38a-11, as amended by this act, and satisfactory proof that such applicant at that time possesses the required qualifications for license and that the issuance of such license will not be contrary to the licensing provisions of this title, provided any producer's license issued by the commissioner, except a temporary producer's license provided for in section 38a-702j, shall continue in force until cancelled, suspended or

46 revoked and provided the insurance company represented by any

- 47 licensee or licensees shall furnish the commissioner, prior to May first,
- 48 biennially, the names of its agents whose appointments it wishes to
- 49 continue. [The fees for producer licenses and agent appointments shall
- 50 be assessed biennially as provided in section 38a-11.]
- 51 (8) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
- 52 <u>chapter 54, to establish a schedule for the renewal of licenses under</u>
- 53 this section.
- 54 (b) Prior to May first of even-numbered years insurance companies
- 55 represented by any licensees shall furnish the commissioner with the
- 56 names of its agents whose appointments they wish to continue.
- 57 (c) The commissioner may implement a plan of renewal for agent
- 58 <u>licenses and</u> appointments that provides for a more efficient process.
- 59 Upon implementation of such a process by the commissioner, the
- 60 procedures outlined in subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be
- 61 superseded.
- 62 (d) Any insurance company which cancels or nonrenews an
- 63 appointment of any agent or any agency shall notify the Insurance
- Department, the agent and the agency, in writing, within thirty days of
- any such cancellation or nonrenewal. Any termination of an agent
- appointment shall be on a form as prescribed by the commissioner.
- Nothing in this subsection shall alter the requirements specified in
- 68 section 38a-709.
- 69 (e) Any insurance producer license may be renewed by the
- 70 commissioner, provided such applicant has satisfied the continuing
- 71 education requirements [pursuant to] <u>set forth in</u> section 38a-782a.
- 72 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 38a-11 of the general statutes is
- 73 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 74 January 1, 2006):
- 75 (a) The commissioner shall demand and receive the following fees:
- 76 (1) For the annual fee for each license issued to a domestic insurance

company, one hundred dollars; (2) for receiving and filing annual reports of domestic insurance companies, twenty-five dollars; (3) for filing all documents prerequisite to the issuance of a license to an insurance company, one hundred seventy-five dollars, except that the fee for such filings by any health care center, as defined in section 38a-175, shall be one thousand one hundred dollars; (4) for filing any additional paper required by law, fifteen dollars; (5) for each certificate of valuation, organization, reciprocity or compliance, twenty dollars; (6) for each certified copy of a license to a company, twenty dollars; (7) for each certified copy of a report or certificate of condition of a company to be filed in any other state, twenty dollars; (8) for amending a certificate of authority, one hundred dollars; (9) for each license issued to a rating organization, one hundred dollars. In addition, insurance companies shall pay any fees imposed under section 12-211; (10) a filing fee of twenty-five dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-769; (11) with respect to insurance agents' appointments: (A) A filing fee of twentyfive dollars for each request for any agent appointment; (B) a fee of forty dollars for each appointment issued to an agent of a domestic insurance company or for each appointment continued; and (C) a fee of twenty dollars for each appointment issued to an agent of any other insurance company or for each appointment continued, except that no fee shall be payable for an appointment issued to an agent of an insurance company domiciled in a state or foreign country which does not require any fee for an appointment issued to an agent of a Connecticut insurance company; (12) with respect to insurance producers: (A) An examination fee of seven dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of seven dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of forty dollars for each license issued; [and] (C) a fee of forty dollars per year, or any portion thereof, for each license renewed; and (D) a fee of forty dollars for any license renewed under the transitional process established in section 38a-784, as amended by this act; (13) with respect to public adjusters: (A) An examination fee of seven dollars for each examination taken,

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except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of seven dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; and (B) a fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars for each license issued or renewed; (14) with respect to casualty adjusters: (A) An examination fee of ten dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of ten dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of forty dollars for each license issued or renewed; and (C) the expense of any examination administered outside the state shall be the responsibility of the entity making the request and such entity shall pay to the commissioner one hundred dollars for such examination and the actual traveling expenses of the examination administrator to administer such examination; (15) with respect to motor vehicle physical damage appraisers: (A) An examination fee of forty dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of forty dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of forty dollars for each license issued or renewed; and (C) the expense of any examination administered outside the state shall be the responsibility of the entity making the request and such entity shall pay to the commissioner one hundred dollars for such examination and the actual traveling expenses of the examination administrator to administer such examination; (16) with respect to certified insurance consultants: (A) An examination fee of thirteen dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of thirteen dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; (B) a fee of two hundred dollars for each license issued; and (C) a fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars for each license renewed; (17) with respect to surplus lines brokers: (A) An examination fee of ten dollars for each examination taken, except when a testing service is used, the testing service shall pay a fee of ten dollars to the commissioner for each examination taken by an applicant; and (B) a fee of five hundred dollars for each license issued or renewed; (18) with respect to fraternal agents, a fee of forty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (19) a fee of thirteen dollars for

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each license certificate requested, whether or not a license has been issued; (20) with respect to domestic and foreign benefit societies shall pay: (A) For service of process, twenty-five dollars for each person or insurer to be served; (B) for filing a certified copy of its charter or articles of association, five dollars; (C) for filing the annual report, ten dollars; and (D) for filing any additional paper required by law, three dollars; (21) with respect to foreign benefit societies: (A) For each certificate of organization or compliance, four dollars; (B) for each certified copy of permit, two dollars; and (C) for each copy of a report or certificate of condition of a society to be filed in any other state, four dollars; (22) with respect to reinsurance intermediaries: A fee of five hundred dollars for each license issued or renewed; (23) with respect to viatical settlement providers: (A) A filing fee of thirteen dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-465a; and (B) a fee of twenty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (24) with respect to viatical settlement brokers: (A) A filing fee of thirteen dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-465a; and (B) a fee of twenty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (25) with respect to viatical settlement investment agents: (A) A filing fee of thirteen dollars for each initial application for a license made pursuant to section 38a-465a; and (B) a fee of twenty dollars for each license issued or renewed; (26) with respect to preferred provider networks, a fee of two thousand five hundred dollars for each license issued or renewed; (27) with respect to rental companies, as defined in section 38a-799, a fee of forty dollars for each permit issued or renewed; and (28) with respect to each duplicate license issued a fee of twenty-five dollars for each license issued.

This act shall sections:	ll take effect as follows and	shall amend the following
Section 1	October 1, 2005	38a-784
Sec. 2	January 1, 2006	38a-11(a)

INS Joint Favorable Subst.

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The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Insurance Dept.	GF - Revenue	Potential	Potential
_	Gain	Significant	Significant

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes various changes to the license and fee structure for insurance producers. The bill increases license renewal fees to \$40 per year or any portion thereof instead of \$40 every two years, and adds license renewal fee payment to the renewal requirements. The bill also permits the Insurance Commissioner to establish a process to transition producers to the new license renewal schedule with a \$40 transitional license fee. In FY 04, the Department of Insurance collected \$2,747,340 in insurance producer license renewal fees. Therefore, the bill could result in a significant revenue gain.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6805

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RENEWAL OF INSURANCE PRODUCER LICENSES

SUMMARY:

This bill (1) makes an insurance producer license renewable every two years on the licensee's birthday instead of on February 1 in even-numbered years; (2) permits the insurance commissioner to establish a process to transition producers to the new license renewal schedule and establishes a \$40 transitional license fee; (3) increases license renewal fees to \$40 per year or any portion thereof instead of \$40 every two years; (4) requires the commissioner to notify a producer at least 30 days before his license expires; (5) adds license renewal fee payment to the renewal requirements; (6) authorizes the commissioner to implement a more efficient license renewal process that supercedes the mandated requirements upon implementation; and (7) permits the commissioner to adopt regulations to establish a license renewal schedule.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2005, except for the license renewal fee change, which is effective January 1, 2006.

LICENSE RENEWAL SCHEDULE

Initial License Issuance and Renewal

The bill requires that a producer license issued for the first time on or after January 1, 2006 expire two years after the producer's last birthday. It may be renewed every two years thereafter on the producer's birthday.

Existing License Renewal

The bill requires that a producer license in effect on January 1, 2007 not issued as an initial or transitional license in 2006 expire on the producer's first birthday after January 1, 2007. It may be renewed every two years thereafter on the producer's birthday.

Transitional License

The bill permits the commissioner to implement a transitional birthday-based renewal process for licenses in effect on December 30, 2005. The transition process runs from February 1, 2006 to January 1, 2007 and can be used to renew some or all of the licenses that would have been eligible for renewal on February 1, 2006 under current law, as long as producers are selected indiscriminately. The commissioner can select producers using license numbers or alphabetizing by last name. A license renewed under the transitional process expires on the producer's first birthday after the renewal and may be renewed every two years thereafter on the producer's birthday.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 15 Nay 0